

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the present application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 6-12 remain in this application. Claims 1-5 have been canceled.

In the Office action, the Examiner rejected Claims 6-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 1,650,289 (McGinley) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,190,596 (Timsit).

In response, independent Claims 6 and 12 have been amended to clarify Applicant's invention as disclosed in the specification at, for example, page 3, lines 10-15.

Applicant respectfully submits that neither McGinley, nor Timsit discloses or suggests a method of manufacturing an electric lamp comprising selecting an alloy with a melting point at least 30°C lower than the melting point of an electric contact material; and depositing a discrete solidified connection body of the alloy, comprising a limited volume of material at a temperature approximately equal to the melting temperature of the material of a shell portion of the lamp cap, at the current supply conductor and electric contact member, as recited in amended Claim 6. Moreover, a method of assembling an electric lamp

comprising joining an electric contact member of a lamp cap with a current supply conductor and, by depositing a connection body of limited volume, controlling a temperature at which the joining takes place to at least 30°C lower than the melting point of the electric contact member as recited in amended Claim 12, is also nowhere disclosed or suggested by McGinley or Timsit, singly or in combination.

The disclosure of McGinley is, in particular, only of an operator's dropping molten solder around the extremity of a lead wire end 16' (col. 3, lines 11-14) and of completing connection of a plug end 15' of a lead wire 15 by solder 26 in the usual manner (col. 3, lines 31-34), and thus cannot reasonably be said to disclose or suggest the method recited in Claim 6 or in Claim 12.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 6 and 12 are patentable, that Claims 7-11 are patentable at least based on their dependency on Claim 6 and that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If any informalities remain, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned in order to expedite allowance.

Appl. No. 09/817,085
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Please charge any fee deficiencies and credit any
overpayments to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,

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